

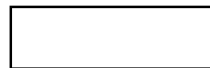
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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM



**SEMICIRCULAR ARRAYS
ISTRA, USSR**



DECEMBER 1968

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2 PAGES

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SEMICIRCULAR ARRAYS,
ISTRA, USSR

Three large semicircular arrays are being constructed at a previously reported HF Communications Facility, 3 nautical miles (nm) east-southeast of Istra and 30 nm west-northwest of Moscow, USSR (Figure 1). This construction is significant because this is the only facility where three arrays have been seen. These arrays at Istra are not to be confused with the previously reported spherical curtain antennas which, although of near identical configuration, are significantly different in engineering design.

The spacing and height of the support towers for the semicircular arrays at Istra and the spacing of the horizontal antenna elements on the towers suggest these are high frequency arrays. Unlike the spherical curtain arrays, each tower may be separately driven and radiation appears to be from the convex side of the array. The Istra control area consists of a large dual-sectional earth-covered control bunker. The longer section has a length of 500 feet and the two combined sections have a width of 225 feet.

A similar type of facility, which has been previously reported, is located 11 nm northwest of Chernyakhovsk and 35 nm east of Kaliningrad. The Chernyakhovsk HF Communications Facility consists of a large dual earth-covered bunker and at least one single semicircular array with an azimuth

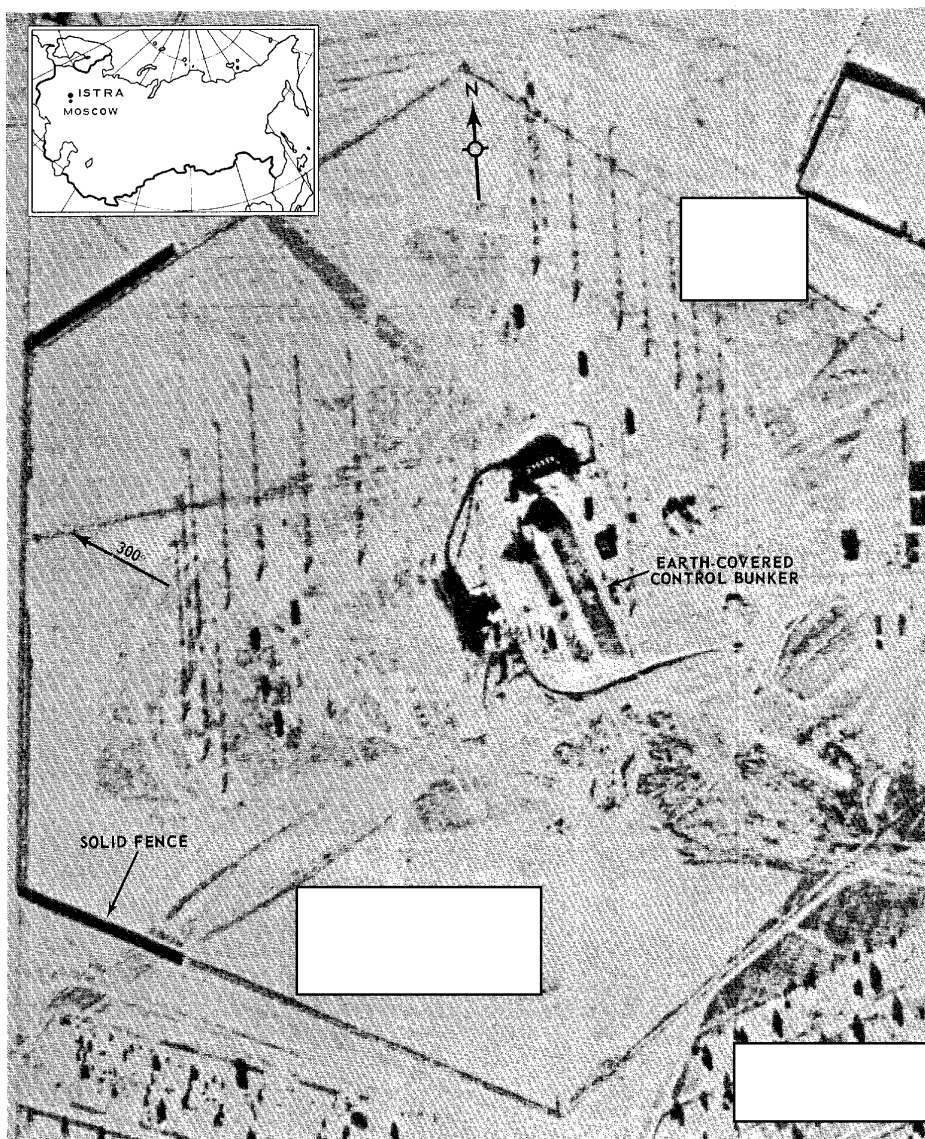
NPIC Project

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FIGURE 1. SEMICIRCULAR ARRAYS, ISTRA, USSR.

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